



## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 7  
901 NORTH 5TH STREET  
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

17 MAR 2009

Ms. Pamela Cooksey, PE  
Deputy City Engineer  
City of Des Moines-Engineering  
400 Robert D. Ray Dr  
Des Moines, IA 50309

Dear Ms. Cooksey:

RE: Review of Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Southeast Connector in Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa, FHWA-Iowa-EIS-08-02 D, Iowa DOT Project Number: NHSX-U-1945(202)-8S-77

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Southeast Connector in Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa. Our review is provided pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act 42 U.S.C. 4231, Council on Environmental Quality regulations 40 C.F.R. Parts 1500-1508, and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act. The DEIS was assigned the CEQ number 20090001.

Based on our overall review and the level of our comments, the EPA has rated the DEIS for this project Lack of Objections. A copy of EPA's rating descriptions is provided as an enclosure to this letter. Also included is a copy of EPA's handout titled "*Principles of Smart Growth*" which pertains to any current and future project undertakings.

Overall the DEIS adequately identifies potential environmental and human health impacts. However, the following comments focus on minimization and mitigation of these impacts and provide additional information related to the project:

### Streams and/or Wetlands

As the final footprint is determined, we recommend avoiding and minimizing impacts to wetlands and streams as much as possible. We recommend that any mitigation should occur in the same Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 8 or smaller watershed as the location of the project impacts. If changes occur in the project purpose, need, alternatives, or impacts between now and the time of issuance on Public Notice by the Corps of Engineers, EPA's Clean Water Act Section 404 program reserves the ability to comment further on this project. Information may be generated through the 404 public interest review process that was not documented during the EIS process and should be considered in the final decision. This could include changes in regulation

or processes, advances in the knowledge of the resources to be impacted, discovery of populations of threatened or endangered species, new best management practices, and/or improvement in stream or wetland restoration science.

### **Environmental Justice and Residential Displacement**

EPA would like to note that the area impacted by both the Yellow and Brown alternatives, the Chesterfield neighborhood, is currently listed by EPA as an Environmental Justice (EJ) area of concern. As detailed in the DEIS, the Chesterfield neighborhood and the NW segment of the planned project area have a high percentage of low-income and minority populations, including populations with an increased likelihood to speak Spanish as their first language. The DEIS does take into consideration, measures for public input including the translation of documents for Spanish-speaking residents.

The areas surrounding Chesterfield neighborhood and the NW segment of the planned project are also concentrated with permitted facilities, with the highest concentration being air permitted facilities. The concentration of facilities coupled with the expected increase in mobile sources in this area further impacts the surrounding population with increased exposure to pollution and potential for cumulative environmental and human health impacts. The DEIS does not mention the potential for cumulative impacts but should consider these impacts on potentially impacted populations especially sensitive populations that include children, the elderly and persons with compromised immune systems. The DEIS states that the Yellow alternative would require the relocation of 15 homes, while the Brown alternative would require the relocation of 4 homes. Because of the impacts to populations along the planned project routes and taking into consideration potential EJ areas of concern, this requires taking proactive measures to minimize adverse effects. We recommend that special considerations and amenable solutions be identified for the residents currently occupying the 4 or 15 residential properties that will be displaced. Though the DEIS does include mitigation measurements for relocation, the final EIS should also include a discussion of how this impact will be resolved, including a relocation strategy that includes public input.

Attached is an output from EPA's Geographic Information System with an outlining of this area. The EPA Region 7 Program has included information on the following documents for use and consideration: 1) The National Environmental Justice Advisory Council's (NEJAC) Model Plan for Public Participation and; 2) Ensuring Risk Reduction in Communities with Multiple Stressors: Environmental Justice and Cumulative Risk Impacts, [www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/publications/ej/nejac/nejac-cum-risk-rpt-122104.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/publications/ej/nejac/nejac-cum-risk-rpt-122104.pdf)

### **Regulated Materials**

Thank you for including mitigation measures to be taken regarding regulated materials in section 3.8.5. Though you did acknowledge and include the possibility of asbestos-containing materials &/or lead-containing paint being present in buildings which may be acquired during the course of the project, as is standard, EPA would just like to reiterate that some demolition activities may involve contact with asbestos-containing materials, electrical components that contain mercury (switches, thermostats) and polychlorinated biphenyls (fluorescent light ballasts).

or transformers), and structural components that may have lead paint coatings. Demolitions should be undertaken with due regard for worker safety and regulatory compliance. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources regulates these particular concerns and should be consulted for specific guidance. Their website is [www.iowadnr.gov](http://www.iowadnr.gov) and the Iowa DNR Air Quality Bureau phone number is 515/242-5100.

**Potential Impacts Identified in Prior Consultation with EPA**

EPA would like to thank you for both addressing the concerns we had mentioned in an October 5, 2005, correspondence email regarding Water Quality, Infrastructure, and Cumulative Impacts Analysis, as well as acknowledging the need to obtain specific permits from regulating authorities throughout the project timeline.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our comments regarding this project. If you have any questions, please contact me at 913-551-7565 or via email at [tucker.amber@epa.gov](mailto:tucker.amber@epa.gov), or you may contact Joe Cothern, NEPA Team Leader, at 913-551-7148 or via email at [cothern.joe@epa.gov](mailto:cothern.joe@epa.gov).

Sincerely,



Amber Tucker  
NEPA Reviewer  
Environmental Services Division

Enclsoures

cc: Philip Barnes, FHWA  
Jim Rost, IDOT



## **Draft Environmental Impact Statement Rating Definitions**

### **Environmental Impact of the Action**

#### **"LO" (Lack of Objections)**

The EPA review has not identified any potential environmental impacts requiring substantive changes to the proposal. The review may have opportunities for application of mitigation measures that could be accomplished with no more than minor changes to the proposal.

#### **"EC" (Environmental Concerns)**

The EPA review has identified environmental impacts that should be avoided in order to fully protect the environment. Corrective measures require changes to the preferred alternative or application of mitigation measures that can reduce the environmental impact. EPA would like to work with the lead agency to reduce these impacts.

#### **"EO" (Environmental Objections)**

The EPA review has identified significant environmental impacts that must be avoided in order to provide adequate protection for the environment. Corrective measures may require substantial changes to the preferred alternative or consideration of some other project alternative (including the no action alternative or a new alternative). EPA intends to work with the lead agency to reduce these impacts.

#### **"EU" (Environmentally Unsatisfactory)**

The EPA review has identified adverse environmental impacts that are of sufficient magnitude that they are unsatisfactory from the standpoint of public health or welfare or environmental quality. EPA intends to work with the lead agency to reduce these impacts. If the potentially unsatisfactory impacts are not corrected at the final EIS stage, this proposal will be recommended for referral to the CEQ.

### **Adequacy of the Impact Statement**

#### **"Category 1" (Adequate)**

EPA believes the draft EIS adequately sets forth the environmental impact(s) of the preferred alternative and those of the alternatives reasonably available to the project or action. No further analysis or data collection is necessary, but the reviewer may suggest the addition of clarifying language or information.

**"Category 2" (Insufficient Information)**

The draft EIS does not contain sufficient information for EPA to fully assess environmental impacts that should be avoided in order to fully protect the environment, or the EPA reviewer has identified new reasonably available alternatives that are within the spectrum of alternatives analyzed in the draft EIS, which could reduce the environmental impacts of the action. The identified additional information, data, analyses, or discussion should be included in the final EIS.

**"Category 3" (Inadequate)**

EPA does not believe that the draft EIS adequately assesses potentially significant environmental impacts of the action, or the EPA reviewer has identified new, reasonably available alternatives that are outside of the spectrum of alternatives analyzed in the draft EIS, which should be analyzed in order to reduce the potentially significant environmental impacts. EPA believes that the identified additional information, data, analyses, or discussions are of such a magnitude that they should have full public review at a draft stage. EPA does not believe that the draft EIS is adequate for the purposes of the NEPA and/or Section 309 review, and thus should be formally revised and made available for public comment in a supplemental or revised draft EIS. On the basis of the potential significant impacts involved, this proposal could be a candidate for referral to the CEQ.

## **Principles of Smart Growth**

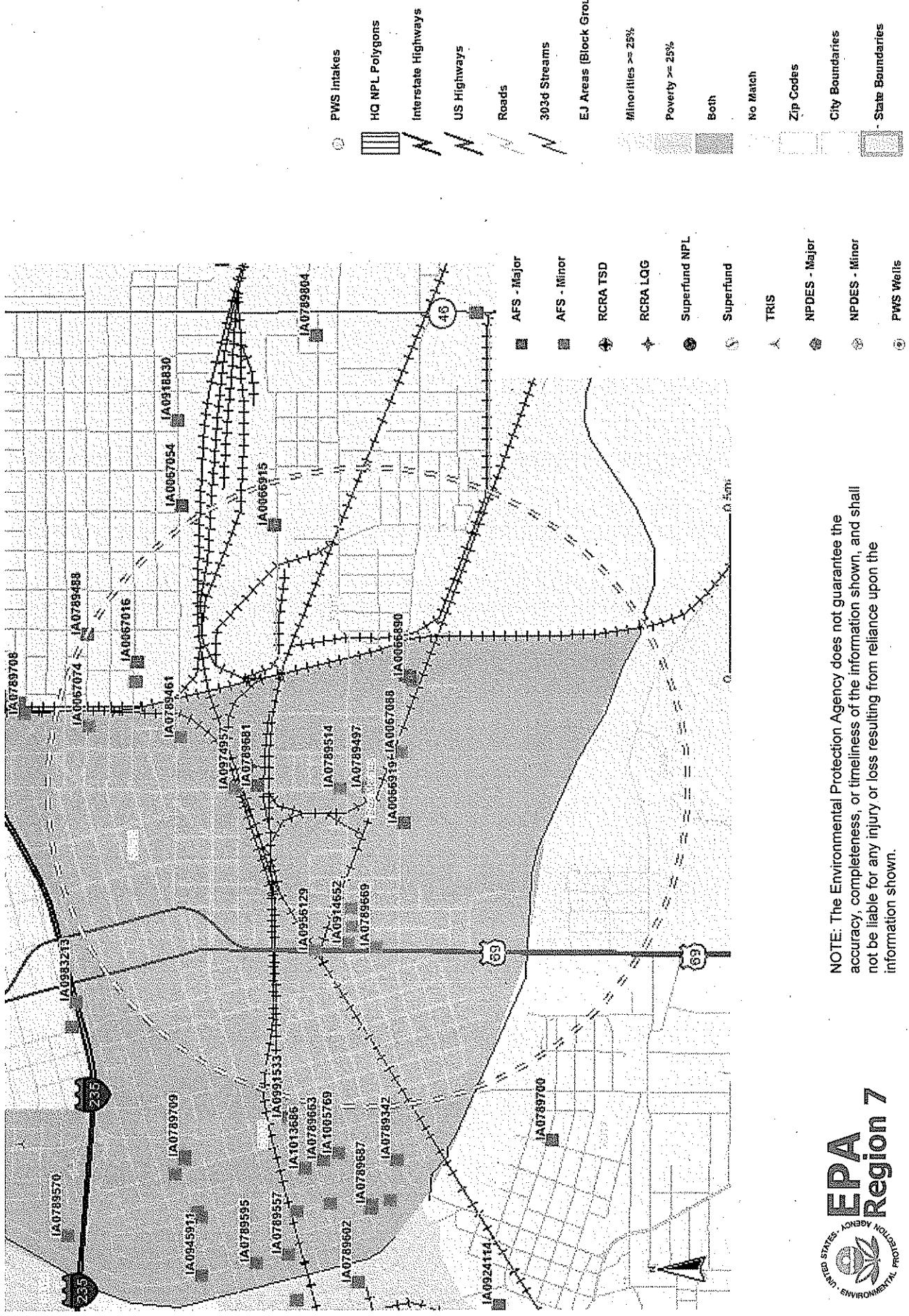
- **Create Range of Housing Opportunities and Choices**  
Providing quality housing for people of all income levels is an integral component in any smart growth strategy.
- **Create Walkable Neighborhoods**  
Walkable communities are desirable places to live, work, learn, worship and play, and therefore a key component of smart growth.
- **Encourage Community and Stakeholder Collaboration**  
Growth can create great places to live, work and play -- if it responds to a community's own sense of how and where it wants to grow.
- **Foster Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place**  
Smart growth encourages communities to craft a vision and set standards for development and construction which respond to community values of architectural beauty and distinctiveness, as well as expanded choices in housing and transportation.
- **Make Development Decisions Predictable, Fair and Cost Effective**  
For a community to be successful in implementing smart growth, it must be embraced by the private sector.
- **Mix Land Uses**  
Smart growth supports the integration of mixed land uses into communities as a critical component of achieving better places to live.
- **Preserve Open Space, Farmland, Natural Beauty and Critical Environmental Areas**  
Open space preservation supports smart growth goals by bolstering local economies, preserving critical environmental areas, improving our communities quality of life, and guiding new growth into existing communities.
- **Provide a Variety of Transportation Choices**  
Providing people with more choices in housing, shopping, communities, and transportation is a key aim of smart growth.
- **Strengthen and Direct Development Towards Existing Communities**  
Smart growth directs development towards existing communities already served by infrastructure, seeking to utilize the resources that existing neighborhoods offer, and conserve open space and irreplaceable natural resources on the urban fringe.
- **Take Advantage of Compact Building Design**  
Smart growth provides a means for communities to incorporate more compact building design as an alternative to conventional, land consumptive development.

These websites provide more information about Smart Growth and go into more depth on each of the topics above:

<http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/>  
<http://www.smartgrowth.org/>  
<http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/pdf/growthwater.pdf>  
<http://www.epa.gov/npdes/greeninfrastructure/general>

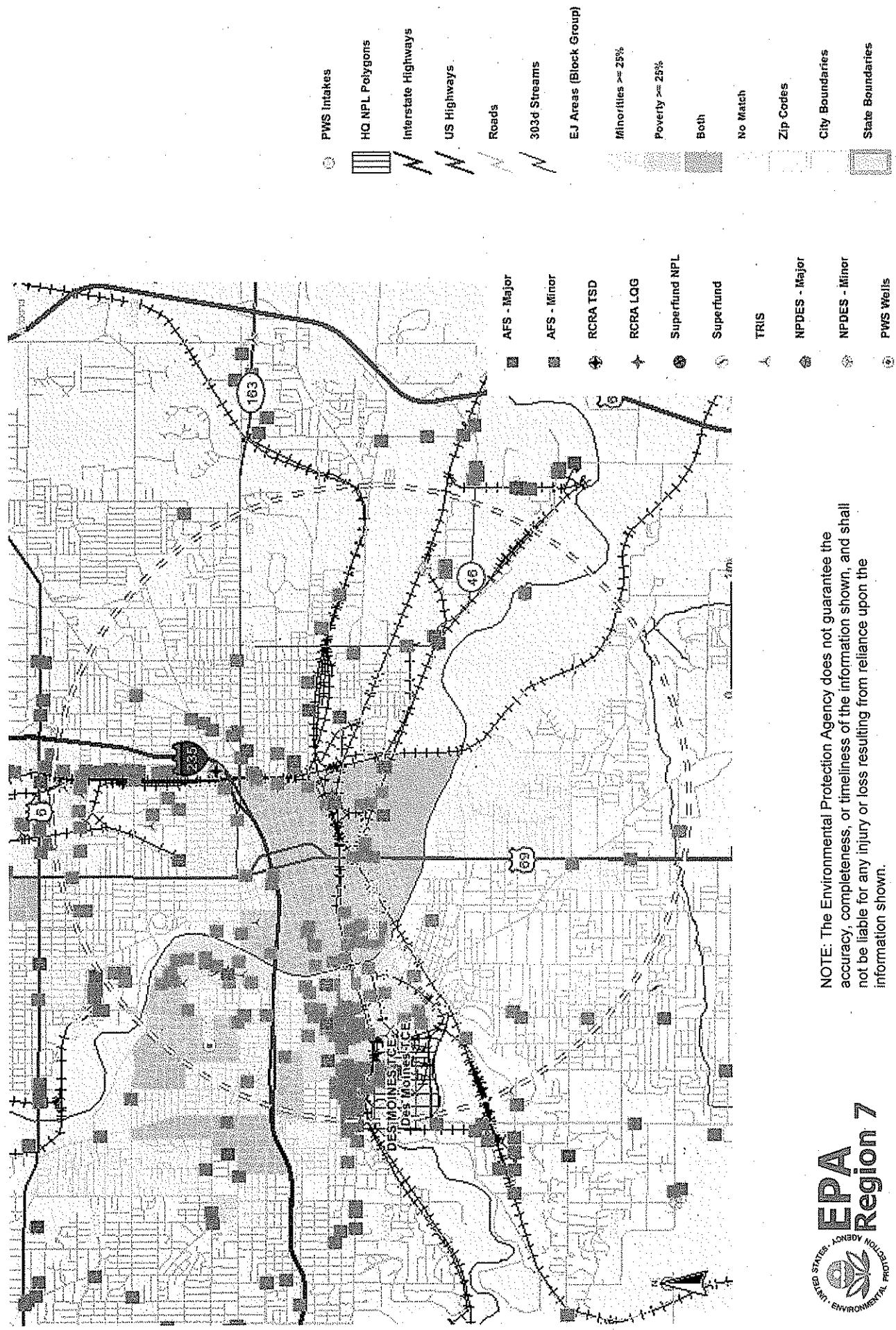


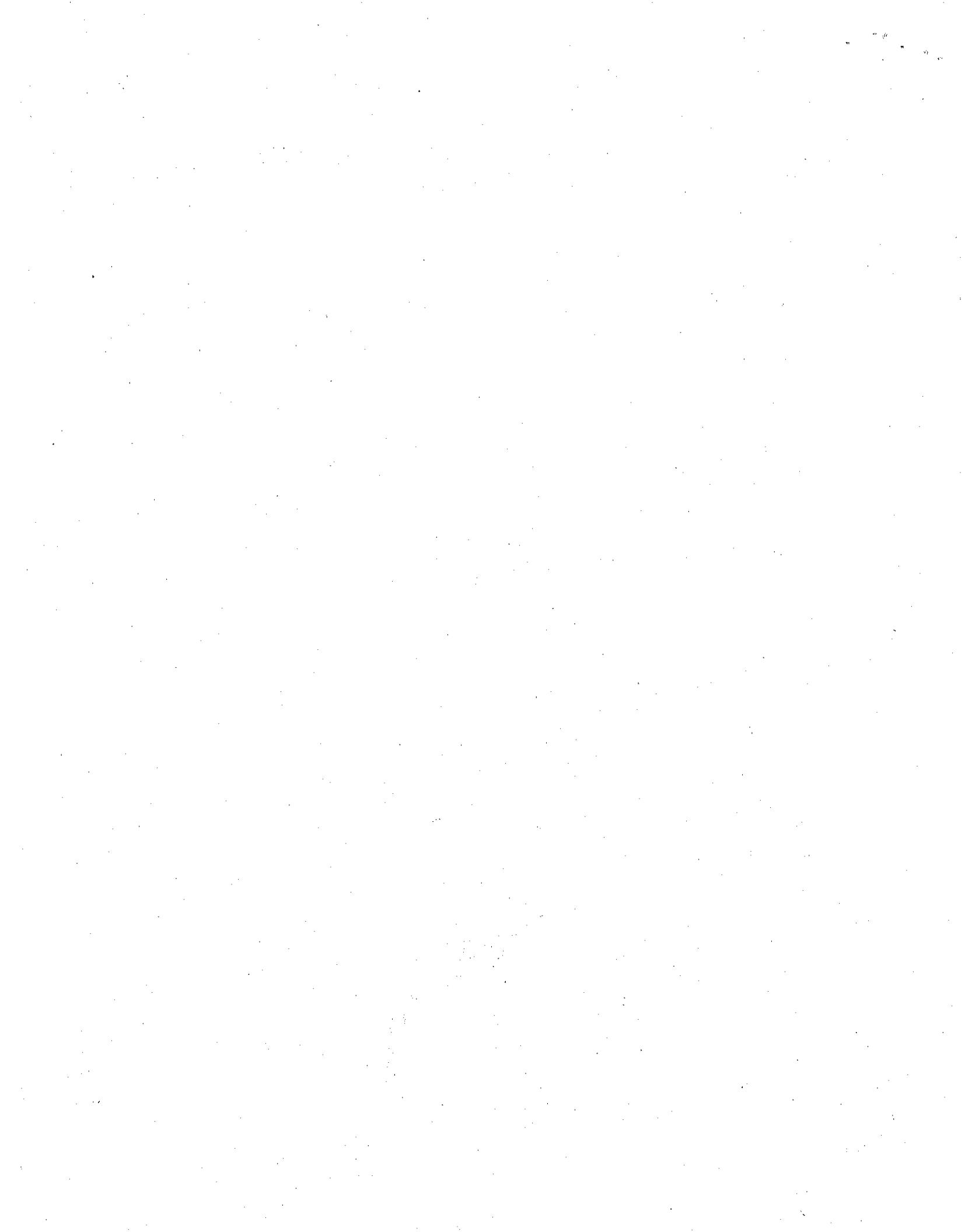
# Potential EJ Areas of concern 1-mile radius

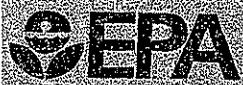




Potential EJ Areas of concern  
3-mile radius



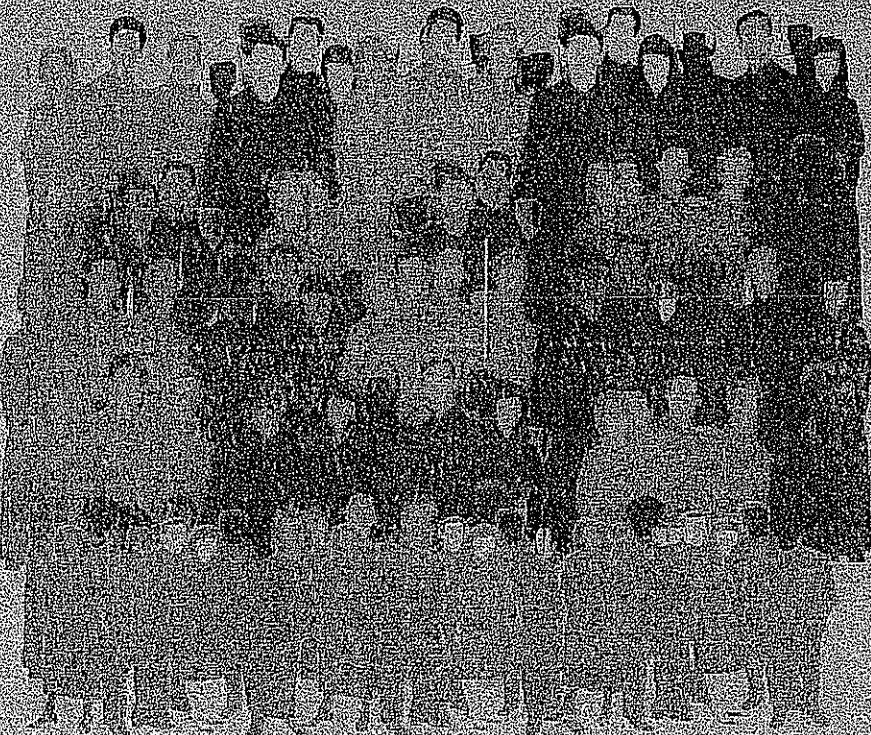




United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency

# THE MODEL PLAN FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

(Originally Published as EPA-300-K-96-003)



Developed by The National Environmental Justice Advisory Council  
A Federal Advisory Committee to the U.S. EPA

United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency

Enforcement and  
Compliance Assurance  
(2201A)

EPA-300-K-00-001  
September 2000  
<http://www.epa.gov/oeca/ej/main/nejacpub.html>

Office of Environmental Justice

To Obtain Copies

Write or Call:  
US EPA National Service Center for Environmental Publications  
P. O. Box 42410  
Cincinnati, OH 45242  
513-489-8190

Request by Report Number EPA-300-K-00-001

This report and recommendations have been written as a part of the activities of the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC), a public advisory committee providing extramural policy information and advice to the Administrator and other officials of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Council is structured to provide balanced, expert assessment of matters related to environmental justice. This report has been reviewed by the EPA. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute a recommendation for use.

This report is a revision of EPA-300-K-96-003 published in 1996.

Inside Front Cover

Dear Colleagues and Friends:

The National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) considers public participation crucial in ensuring that decisions affecting human health and the environment embrace environmental justice. To facilitate such public participation, the NEJAC requested that its Public Participation and Accountability Subcommittee develop recommendations for methods by which EPA can institutionalize public participation in its environmental programs. In 1994, the Public Participation and Accountability Subcommittee developed the Model Plan for Public Meetings. The NEJAC adopted the model plan as a living document to be reviewed annually and revised as needed.

We are pleased to send you an updated copy of the Model Plan for Public Participation. We also have enclosed the "Core Values for the Practice of Public Participation," developed by Interact: The Journal of Public Participation, and the "Guiding Principles for Public Participation," developed by the NEJAC Public Participation and Accountability Subcommittee. We invite you to consider the model plan as a tool that will enhance the public participation process. Please share this document with others who may be interested in encouraging broader community participation in the environmental decision-making process.

Please forward any written comments to:

Public Participation  
Office of Environmental Justice  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW (Mail Code: 2201A)  
Washington, DC 20460  
Phone: (202) 564-2515  
Hotline: (800) 962-6215  
Fax: (202) 501-0740  
E-mail: [environmental-justice-epa@epa.gov](mailto:environmental-justice-epa@epa.gov)  
Internet: [http://es.epa.gov/oeca\\_new/ej/nejac/index.html](http://es.epa.gov/oeca_new/ej/nejac/index.html)

## **CONTENTS**

Background .....	5
Critical Elements for Conducting Public Participation .....	6
1. Preparation	
2. Participants	
3. Logistics	
4. Mechanics	
Core Values and Guiding Principles for the Practice of Public Participation .....	8
Environmental Justice Public Participation Checklist for Government Agencies .....	9
Bibliography .....	12
Acknowledgments .....	13

## BACKGROUND

The National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) is a federal advisory committee that was established by charter on September 30, 1993, to provide independent advice, consultation, and recommendations to the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on matters related to environmental justice. The NEJAC is made up of 26 members, and one Designated Federal Officer (DFO), who serve on a parent council that has one subcommittee which meets only in Puerto Rico to address its unique environmental problems, and six program-based subcommittees--Air and Water, Enforcement, Health and Research, Indigenous Peoples, International, and Waste and Facility Siting. Along with the NEJAC members who fill subcommittee posts, an additional 40 individuals serve on the various subcommittees. The NEJAC has held meetings in locations across the United States, including Washington, D.C.; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Herndon, Virginia; 2 in Atlanta, Georgia; 3 in Arlington, Virginia; Detroit, Michigan; Durham, North Carolina; Oakland, California; Baton Rouge, Louisiana and Seattle, Washington.

As a federal advisory committee, the NEJAC is bound by all requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) of October 6, 1972. Those requirements include:

- Members must be selected and appointed by EPA
- Members must attend and participate fully in meetings of the NEJAC
- Meetings must be open to the public, except as specified by the EPA Administrator
- All meetings must be announced in the Federal Register
- Public participation must be allowed at all Public Participation
- The public must be provided access to materials distributed during the meeting
- Meeting minutes must be kept and made available to the public
- NEJAC must provide independent judgment that is not influenced by special interest groups

Each subcommittee, formed to deal with a specific topic and to facilitate the conduct of the business of the NEJAC, has a DFO and is bound by the requirements of FACA. Subcommittees of the NEJAC meet independently of the full NEJAC and present their findings to the NEJAC for review. Subcommittees cannot make recommendations independently to EPA. In addition to the six subcommittees, the NEJAC has established a Protocol Committee, the members of which are the chair of NEJAC and the chairs of each subcommittee.

EPA's Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) maintains transcripts, summary reports, and other material distributed during the meetings. Those documents are available to the public upon request. Executive summaries of the reports of the NEJAC meetings are available on the Internet at [http://es.epa.gov/oeca\\_new/ej/nejac/index.html](http://es.epa.gov/oeca_new/ej/nejac/index.html)

Comments or questions can be directed to OEJ through the Internet at [environmental-justice-epa@epa.gov](mailto:environmental-justice-epa@epa.gov)

## **CRITICAL ELEMENTS FOR CONDUCTING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

### **1. PREPARATION**

- A. Developing co-sponsoring and co-planning relationships with community organizations is essential to successful community meetings. To ensure a successful meeting, agencies should provide co-sponsors the resources they need and should share all planning roles.

These roles include:

- Decision making
- Development of the agenda
- Establishment of clear goals
- Leadership
- Outreach

- B. Educating the community to allow equal participation and provide a means to influence decision making.
- C. Regionalizing materials to ensure cultural sensitivity and relevance.
- D. Providing a facilitator who is sensitive and trained in environmental justice issues.

### **2. PARTICIPANTS**

- A. As the NEJAC model demonstrates, the following communities should be involved in environmental justice issues:

- Community and neighborhood groups
- Community service organizations (health, welfare, and others)
- Educational institutions and academia
- Environmental organizations
- Government agencies (federal, state, county, local, and tribal)
- Industry and business
- Medical community
- Non-government organizations
- Religious communities
- Spiritual communities

- B. Identify key stakeholders, including:

- Educational institutions
- Affected communities
- Policy and decision makers (for example, representatives of agencies accountable for environmental justice issues, such as health officials, regulatory and enforcement officials, and social agency staff).

### **3. LOGISTICS**

#### **A. Where:**

- The meetings should be accessible to all who wish to attend (public transportation, child care, and access for persons with disabilities should be considered).
- The meeting must be held in an adequate facility (size and conditions must be considered).
- Technologies should be used to allow more effective communication (teleconferences, adequate translation, equipment, and other factors).

#### **B. When:**

- The time of day and year of the meeting should accommodate the needs of affected communities (evening and weekend meetings accommodate working people, and careful scheduling can avoid conflicts with other community or cultural events).

#### **C. How:**

- An atmosphere of equal participation must be created (avoid using a "panel" or "head table").
- A two-day meeting, at a minimum, is suggested. The first day should be reserved for community planning and education.
- The community and the government should share leadership and presentation assignments.

### **4. MECHANICS**

- Maintain clear goals by referring to the agenda; however, do not be bound by it.
- Incorporate cross-cultural exchanges in the presentation of information and the meeting agenda.
- Provide a professional facilitator who is sensitive to, and trained in environmental justice issues.
- Provide a timeline that describes how the meeting fits into the overall agenda of the issues at hand.
- Coordinate follow-up by developing an action plan and determining who is the contact person who will expedite the work products from the meeting.
- Distribute minutes and a list of action items to facilitate follow-up.

## **CORE VALUES AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE PRACTICE OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Items 1-7 were adopted from "Interact: The Journal of Public Participation, Volume 2, Number 1, Spring 1996." Items 8-14 are The Guiding Principles for Public Participation developed by the NEJAC's Public Participation/Accountability Workgroup to ensure the early involvement of the public.

- \*1. People should have a say in decisions about actions which affect their lives.
- \*2. Public participation includes the promise that the public's contribution will influence the decision.
- \*3. The public participation process communicates the interests and meets the process needs of all participants.
- \*4. The public participation process seeks out and facilitates the involvement of those potentially affected.
- \*5. The public participation process involves participants in defining how they participate.
- \*6. The public participation process communicates to participants how their input was, or was not, utilized.
- \*7. The public participation process provides participants with the information they need to participate in a meaningful way.
- 8. Involve the public in decisions about actions which affect their lives.
- 9. Maintain honesty and integrity throughout the process.
- 10. Encourage early and active community participation.
- 11. Recognize community knowledge.
- 12. Use cross-cultural methods of communication.
- 13. Institutionalize meaningful public participation by acknowledging and formalizing the process.
- 14. Create mechanisms and measurements to ensure the effectiveness of public participation.

*\*Interact is published by the International Association of Public Participation Practitioners, a non-profit corporation established in 1990 to serve practitioners throughout the world seeking practical experience designing and conducting public involvement programs.*

## **ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION CHECKLIST FOR GOVERNMENT AGENCIES**

1. Ensure that the Agency's public participation policies are consistent with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act, the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act and the National Environmental Policy Act.
2. Obtain the support of senior management to ensure that the Agency's policies and activities are modified to ensure early, effective and meaningful public participation, especially with regard to Environmental Justice stakeholders. Identify internal stakeholders and establish partnering relationships.
3. Use the following Guiding Principles in setting up all Public Meetings:
  - Maintain honesty and integrity throughout the process
  - Recognize community and indigenous knowledge
  - Encourage active community participation
  - Utilize cross-cultural formats and exchanges
4. Identify external Environmental Justice stakeholders and provide opportunities to offer input into decisions that may impact their health, property values and lifestyles. Consider at a minimum individuals from the following organizations as appropriate:
  - Environmental organizations
  - Business and trade organizations
  - Civic/public interest groups
  - Grassroots/community-based organizations
  - Congress
  - Federal agencies
  - Homeowner and resident organizations
  - International organizations
  - Labor unions
  - Local and State government
5. Identify key individuals who can represent various stakeholder interests. Learn as much as possible about stakeholders and their concerns through personal consultation, phone or written contacts. Ensure that information-gathering techniques include modifications for minority and low-income communities (for example, consider language and cultural barriers, technical background, literacy, access to respondents, privacy issues and preferred types of communications).
6. Solicit stakeholder involvement early in the policy-making process, beginning in the planning and development stages and continuing through implementation and oversight.
7. Develop co-sponsoring/co-planning relationships with community organizations, providing resources for their needs.
8. Establish a central point of contact within the Federal agency to assist in information dissemination, resolve problems and to serve as a visible and accessible advocate of the public's right to know about issues that affect health or environment.

9. Regionalize materials to ensure cultural sensitivity and relevance. Make information readily accessible (for example, access for the handicapped and sight- and hearing-impaired) and understandable. Unabridged documents should be placed in repositories. Executive summaries/fact sheets should be prepared in layman's language. Whenever practicable and appropriate, translate targeted documents for limited English-speaking population.
10. Make information available in a timely manner. Environmental Justice stakeholders should be viewed as full partners and Agency customers. They should be provided with information at the same time it is submitted for formal review to State, Tribal and/or Federal regulatory agencies.
11. Ensure that personnel at all levels in the Agency clearly understand policies for transmitting information to Environmental Justice stakeholders in a timely, accessible and understandable fashion.
12. Establish site-specific community advisory boards where there is sufficient and sustained interest. To determine whether there is sufficient and sustained interest, at a minimum, review correspondence files, review media coverage, conduct interviews with local community members and advertise in local newspapers. Ensure that the community representation includes all aspects and diversity of the population. Organize a member selection panel. Solicit nominations from the community. Consider providing administrative and technical support to the community advisory board.
13. Schedule meetings and/or public hearings to make them accessible and user-friendly for Environmental Justice stakeholders. Consider time frames that do not conflict with work schedules, rush hours, dinner hours and other community commitments that may decrease attendance. Consider locations and facilities that are local, convenient and represent neutral turf. Ensure that the facility meets American with Disabilities Act Statements about equal access. Provide assistance for hearing-impaired individuals. Whenever practical and appropriate, provide translators for limited-English speaking communities. Advertise the meeting and its proposed agenda in a timely manner in the print and electronic media. Provide a phone number and/or address for communities to find out about pending meetings, issues, enter concerns or to seek participation or alter meetings agendas.
14. Consider other vehicles to increase participation of Environmental Justice stakeholders including:
  - Posters and Exhibits
  - Participation in Civic and Community Activities
  - Public Database and Bulletin Boards
  - Surveys
  - Telephone Hotlines
  - Training and Education Programs, Workshops and Materials
15. Be sure that trainers have a good understanding of the subject matter both technical and administrative. The trainers are the Ambassadors of this program. If they don't understand - no one will.

16. Diversity in the workplace: whenever practical be sure that those individuals that are the decision makers reflect the intent of the Executive Order and come from diverse backgrounds, especially those of a community with whom the Agency will have extensive interaction.
17. After holding a public forum in a community, establish a procedure to follow up with concrete action to address the communities' concerns. This will help to establish credibility for your Agency as having an active role in the Federal government.
18. Promote interagency coordination to ensure that the most far reaching aspects of environmental justice are sufficiently addressed in a timely manner. Environmental problems do not occur along departmental lines. Therefore, solutions require many agencies and other stakeholders to work together efficiently and effectively.
19. Educate stakeholders about all aspects of environmental justice (functions, roles, jurisdiction, structure and enforcement).
20. Ensure that research projects identify environmental justice issues and needs in communities, and how to meet those needs through the responsible agencies.
21. Establish interagency working groups (at all levels) to address and coordinate issues of environmental justice.
22. Provide information to communities about the government's role as it pertains to short-term and long-term economic and environmental needs and health effects.
23. Train staff to support inter-and intra-Agency coordination, and make them aware of the resources needed for such coordination.
24. Provide Agency staff who are trained in cultural, linguistic and community outreach techniques.
25. Hold workshops, seminars and other meetings to develop partnerships between agencies, workers and community groups. (Ensure mechanisms are in place to ensure that partnerships can be implemented via cooperative agreements, etc.)
26. Provide effective outreach, education and communications. Findings should be shared with community members, with an emphasis on being sensitive and respectful to race, ethnicity, gender, language, and culture.
27. Design and implement educational efforts tailored to specific communities and problems. Increase the involvement of ethnic caucuses, religious groups, the press, and legislative staff in resolution of Environmental Justice issues.
28. Assure active participation of affected communities in the decision-making process for outreach, education, training and community programs -- including representation on advisory councils and review committees.
29. Encourage Federal and State governments to "reinvent government" -- overhaul the bureaucratic in favor of community responsiveness.

30. Link environmental issues to local economic issues to increase level of interest.
31. Use local businesses for environmental cleanup or other related activities.
32. Utilize, as appropriate, historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) and Minority Institutes (MI), Hispanic Serving Colleges and Universities (HSCU) and Indian Centers to network and form community links that they can provide.
33. Utilize, as appropriate, local expertise for technical and science reviews.
34. Previous to conducting the first Agency meeting, form an agenda with the assistance of community and Agency representatives.
35. Provide "open microphone" format during meetings to allow community members to ask questions and identify issues from the community.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

"Interim Report of the Federal Facilities Environmental Restoration Dialogue Committee," February 1993, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Keystone Center.

"Community Relations in Superfund: A Handbook," January 1992, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Documents # EPA-540-R-92-009 and # PB92-963341.

DRAFT "Partnering Guide for DoD Environmental Missions," July 1994, Institute for Water Resources, U.S.A.C.E.

"Improving Dialogue with Communities: A Short Guide for Government Risk Communications," September 1991, Environmental Communications Research Program, New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, Cook College, Rutgers University.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The NEJAC gratefully acknowledges the efforts of the following current and former members of the Public Participation and Accountability Subcommittee who contributed to the development of this document:

Carl Anthony  
Earth Island Institute and Urban Habitat

Mable Butler  
Orange County, CA County Commission

Lawrence J. Dark  
Urban League of Portland

Domingo Gonzales  
Texas Center for Policy Studies

Dolores Herrera  
Albuquerque San Jose  
Community Awareness Council, Inc.

Lawrence Hurst  
Motorola, Inc.

Robert Knox, Designated Federal Officer  
Office of Environmental Justice  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

John Kyte  
National Association of Manufacturers

Dune Lankard  
Eyak Rainforest Preservation Fund

Pamela Tau Lee  
University of California  
Center for Occupational and Environmental Health

John O'Leary  
Pierce Atwood

Peggy Saika  
Asian Pacific Environmental Network

Cindy Thomas  
Alaska Native Health Board

Salomón Rondón-Tolléns  
Puerto Rico Natural Resources and Environmental Quality Commission

Connie Tucker  
Southern Organizing Committee for Economic and Environmental Justice

Haywood Turrentine  
Laborers-International Union of North America

Baldemar Velasquez  
Farm Labor Organizing Committee

Beverly Wright  
Xavier University  
Deep South Center for Environmental Justice

The following NEJAC members contributed to this revision:

Annabelle Jaramillo  
Office of the Governor  
State of Oregon

Delbert Dubois  
Four Mile Hibberian Community Association

Denise D. Feiber  
Environmental Science & Engineering, Inc.

Mamie Rupnicki  
Prairie Band of Potawatomi Tribe in Kansas

Robert Holmes  
Southern Center for Studies in  
Public Policy, Clark Atlanta University

Rosa Hilda Ramos  
Community of Catano Against Pollution

### In Memoriam:

Jean Sindab  
National Council of Churches

Dana Alston  
Public Welfare Foundation

## RECONOCIMIENTOS

El NEJAC reconoce los esfuerzos de los siguientes actuales y anteriores miembros del Subcomité de Participación Pública y Responsabilidad quienes contribuyeron al desarrollo de este modelo:

Carl Anthony  
Earth Island Institute and Urban Habitat

Mable Butler  
Orange County, CA County Commission

Lawrence J. Dark  
Urban League of Portland

Domingo Gonzales  
Texas Center for Policy Studies

Dolores Herrera  
Albuquerque San Jose  
Community Awareness Council, Inc.

Lawrence Hurst  
Motorola, Inc.

Robert Knox, Designated Federal Officer  
Office of Environmental Justice  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

John Kyte  
National Association of Manufacturers

Dune Lankard  
Eyak Rainforest Preservation Fund

Pamela Tau Lee  
University of California  
Center for Occupational and Environmental  
Health

John O'Leary  
Pierce Atwood

Peggy Saika  
Asian Pacific Environmental Network

Cindy Thomas  
Alaska Native Health Board

Salomón Rondón-Tollén  
Puerto Rico Natural Resources and  
Environmental Quality Commission

Connie Tucker  
Southern Organizing Committee for Economic and  
Environmental Justice

Haywood Turrentine  
Laborers-International Union of North America

Baldemar Velasquez  
Farm Labor Organizing Committee

Beverly Wright  
Xavier University  
Deep South Center for Environmental Justice

Los siguientes miembros del NEJAC contribuyeron  
con esta revisión:

Annabelle Jaramillo  
Office of the Governor  
State of Oregon

Delbert Dubois  
Four Mile Hibberian Community Association

Denise D. Feiber  
Environmental Science & Engineering, Inc.

Mamie Rupnicki  
Prairie Band of Potawatomie Tribe in Kansas

Robert Holmes  
Southern Center for Studies in  
Public Policy, Clark Atlanta University

Rosa Hilda Ramos  
Community of Catano Against Pollution

### In Memoriam:

Jean Sindab  
National Council of Churches

Dana Alston  
Public Welfare Foundation

## BIBLIOGRAFÍA

"Interim Report of the Federal Facilities Environmental Restoration Dialogue Committee," Febrero 1993, Agencia de Protección Ambiental, E.E.U.U. y el Centro Keystone.

"Community Relations in Superfund: A Handbook," Enero 1992, Agencia de Protección Ambiental, E.E.U.U. Documentos # EPA-540-R-92-009 y # PB92-963341.

BORRADOR "Partnering Guide for DOD Environmental Missions," Julio 1994, Instituto de Recursos de Agua, E.E.U.U. y S.A.C.E.

"Improving Dialogue with Communities: A Short Guide for Government Risk Communications," Septiembre 1991, Programa de Investigación para la Comunicación Ambiental, Estación Experimental de New Jersey, Colegio Cook, Universidad de Rutgers.

29. Motivar al gobierno Federal y Estatal para "reinventar el gobierno" --reparar la burocracia para responder en favor de la comunidad.
30. Entrelazar los asuntos ambiental a los asuntos económicos locales para aumentar el nivel de interés.
31. Usar los negocios a nivel local para limpiar el ambiente y otras actividades relacionadas.
32. Utilizar, según sea apropiado, los Colegios y Universidades históricamente Negro (HBCU) e Institutos de Minoría (MI), Colegios y Universidades Sirviendo al Hispano (HSCU) y los Centros Indígenas para formar redes y lazos que ellos puedan proveer.
33. Utilizar, según sea apropiado, expertos de la localidad para hacer las revisiones técnicas y científicas.
34. Antes de conducir la primera reunión con la Agencia, prepare una agenda con la asistencia de la comunidad y los representantes de la Agencia.
35. Proveer "micrófono abierto" que esté disponible durante las reuniones para permitir que los miembros de la comunidad puedan hacer preguntas e identificar asuntos de la comunidad.

16. Diversidad en el trabajo: siempre que pueda asegúrese que los individuos que toman las decisiones reflejan la intención de la Orden Ejecutiva y que proceden de diversos antecedentes, especialmente aquellos con quienes la Agencia interactúa extensivamente.
17. Luego de sostener un foro público en una comunidad, establezca un procedimiento para dar seguimiento con acciones concretas a los asuntos de las comunidades. Esto ayuda a establecer credibilidad para su Agencia como una que tiene una función activa en el gobierno Federal.
18. Promover la coordinación interagencial para asegurar que los aspectos más remotos de justicia ambiental estan suficientemente señalados a tiempo. Los problemas del ambiente no ocurren como si fueran departamentos. Por lo tanto, las soluciones requieren que muchas agencias y otros interesados trabajen juntos eficazmente y efectivamente.
19. Educar a los interesados acerca de todos los aspectos de justicia ambiental (funciones, roles, jurisdicción, estructura y ejecución legal).
20. Asegurar que los proyectos de investigación identifican los asuntos de justicia ambiental y las necesidades de la comunidad, y cómo esas necesidades se resuelven através de las agencias responsables.
21. Establecer un grupo de trabajo interagencial (a todos los niveles) que indiquen y coordinen las asuntos de justicia ambiental.
22. Proveer información a la comunidad con referencia a las funciones del gobierno según tienen pertinencia a las necesidades de la economía, el ambiente y los efectos de la salud a largo y corto plazo
23. Entrenar a los funcionarios para que apoyen en la coordinación a nivel interno e integrado dentro de la Agencia, y hacerles conscientes de los recursos que se necesitan para tal coordinación,
24. Proveer funcionarios de la Agencia que estén entrenados en las técnicas de promoción de la comunidad, de la cultura y de la lengua.
25. Sostener talleres de trabajo, seminarios y otras reuniones para desarrollar asociaciones entre las agencias, entre los trabajadores y entre los grupos de la comunidad. (Asegurar que los mecanismos estén en su lugar para que estas asociaciones puedan ser implementadas por acuerdos cooperativos, etc.)
26. Proveer una propaganda efectiva, para la educación y las comunicaciones. Todos los hallazgos deben ser compartidos con los miembros de la comunidad, con énfasis en la sensibilidad y respeto a la raza, a la etnicidad, al género, al idioma y la cultura.
27. Diseñar e implementar esfuerzos a nivel educacional a la medida de las comunidades y a sus problemas específicos. Aumentar el involucramiento de comités étnicos, grupos religiosos, la prensa, los funcionarios legislativos en la resolución de asuntos de Justicia Ambiental.
28. Asegurar la participación activa de las comunidades en el proceso de la toma de decisiones para propagar, educar, entrenar y preparar programas comunales — incluyendo representaciones en los comités de consejos de asesoría.

derecho de saber del público en referencia a los asuntos que le afectan en la salud y el ambiente.

9. Los materiales deben de responder a su Región o localidad para asegurar la sensibilidad cultural y su pertinencia. Permita que la información esté fácilmente disponible, accesible (por ejemplo, acceso para los incapacitados, ciegos y sordos) y entendible. Los documentos oficiales deberán ser archivados en un lugar seguro. Preparar el Compendio Ejecutivo y el Boletín Informativo en el lenguaje común del pueblo. Traducir los documentos identificados, cuantas veces sea práctico para una población con limitación para entender el idioma en Inglés.
10. Permitir que la información esté disponible a tiempo. Los socios interesados en Justicia Ambiental deben de ser vistos como asociados y clientes de la Agencia. La información para revisión enviada al Estado, a las Tribus y/o agencias normativas se les debe proveer al mismo tiempo.
11. Asegurar que todo personal a diferentes niveles en la Agencia, claramente comprendan las políticas públicas para poder transmitirlas a tiempo, y proveer interpretación y el acceso a éstas a los asociados de Justicia Ambiental.
12. Establecer juntas de consejo de la comunidad en áreas-específicas donde existe suficiente y sostenido interés. Para determinar si existe suficiente interés, como mínimo, revise la correspondencia del archivo, revise los anuncios de publicación o propaganda, conduzca entrevistas con miembros locales de la comunidad y anuncios en los periódicos de la localidad. Asegure que la representación de la comunidad incluye todos los aspectos y diversidad de la población. Organice un panel para la selección de miembros. Solicite nominaciones dentro de la comunidad. Considere proveer apoyo administrativo y técnico a la junta de consejo de la comunidad.
13. Planificar las reuniones y/o las vistas públicas en áreas accesibles y aceptable por todos los interesados en Justicia Ambiental. Considerar que el tiempo no interfiera con los itinerarios de trabajo, horas de mayor tráfico, horas de cena y otros compromisos de la comunidad que puedan interferir y reducir la asistencia. Considerar localizaciones y facilidades que esten dentro de la comunidad, que sea conveniente y que represente neutralidad. Asegurar que la facilidad cumpla con la Declaración de Incapacitados en América con Igualdad de Acceso. Proveer asistencia para individuos sordos. Siempre que sea práctico y apropiado, provea traductores para comunidades con limitación para entender y hablar el idioma del Inglés. Anunciar la reunión y su agenda propuesta a tiempo, electrónicamente y utilizando el medio de información pública. Proveer un número de teléfono y/o direcciones que permitan a las comunidades enterarse de las reuniones pendientes, los asuntos, para que puedan presentar sus preocupaciones, buscar su participación o alterar las agendas de las reuniones.
14. Considere otros medios para aumentar la participación de los interesados de Justicia Ambiental incluyendo:
  - Cartelones y Exhibiciones
  - Participación en Actividades Cívicas y de la Comunidad
  - Fuente de Información Pública y Tabla de Edictos
  - Estudios
  - Líneas de Emergencia Gratuita
  - Programas de Entrenamiento y Educación, Talleres de Trabajo y Materiales
15. Esté seguro de que los entrenadores tienen un buen entendimiento del tema en cuestión, tanto técnico como administrativo. Los entrenadores son los embajadores de este programa. Si ellos no entienden, nadie va a entender.

## **LISTA DE JUSTICIA AMBIENTAL PARA MONITOREO DE PARTICIPACIÓN PÚBLICA PARA LAS AGENCIAS DEL GOBIERNO**

1. Asegurar que las políticas públicas para la participación pública de la Agencia sean consistentes con los requisitos del Acta del Libre Acceso a la Información, Acta de Planificación para Emergencia y el Derecho de Saber de la Comunidad, y el Acta de Política Pública Nacional para el Ambiente.
2. Obtener el apoyo de la gestión a nivel de alta gerencia para asegurar que las políticas y actividades de la Agencia están modificadas para asegurar la pronta, efectiva y significativa participación pública, especialmente con referencia a los interesados en Justicia Ambiental. Identificar interesados internos y establecer relaciones con ellos como socios.
3. Use la siguiente Guía de Principios cuando organice las reuniones públicas:
  - Mantenga honestidad e integridad a través del proceso.
  - Reconozca la comunidad y el conocimiento de los indígenas.
  - Estimule la participación activa de la comunidad
  - Utilice formatos de entrelace de cultura e intercambios
4. Identificar interesados externos en Justicia Ambiental y proveer oportunidades que ofrezcan insumo en las decisiones que puedan impactar su salud, el valor de su propiedad y el estilo de vida. Como mínimo, considere individuos de las siguientes organizaciones según sea apropiado:
  - Organizaciones Ambientales
  - Organizaciones de Negocio y de Mercadeo Comercial
  - Grupos de interés cívicos/público
  - Organizaciones de Base de la Comunidad
  - Congreso
  - Agencias Federal
  - Organizaciones de Dueños de Propiedad y Residentes
  - Organizaciones Internacionales
  - Uniones de Trabajo
  - Gobierno Local y Estatal
5. Identificar individuos claves quienes puedan representar a diversos grupos de interés. Conozca en lo más posible a los interesados y sus preocupaciones a través de consulta personal, teléfono o contactos por escrito. Asegurar que la información técnica recogida, incluya modificaciones para comunidades de minorías y comunidades de bajo ingreso (por ejemplo, considere el lenguaje y las barreras culturales, antecedentes técnicos, analfabetismo, acceso a información para los que responden, asuntos confidenciales y el tipo preferido de comunicaciones).
6. Para envolver a los interesados en el proceso de la toma de decisiones, la planificación y el desarrollo de cada etapa a través de la implementación se debe de solicitar la participación desde el comienzo y estar vigilantes.
7. Desarrollar relaciones que sean co-patrocinadores y co-planificadores con las organizaciones de la comunidad y proveer recursos a sus necesidades.
8. Establecer un punto central dentro de la agencia Federal para asistir en la diseminación de información, resolver problemas y servir como un defensor visible y accesible al

## NÚCLEO DE VALORES Y PRINCIPIOS GUÍAS PARA LA PRÁCTICA DE PARTICIPACIÓN PÚBLICA

Los puntos del 1-7 fueron adoptados de la revista "Interact: The Journal of Public Participation", Volúmen 2, Número 1, Primavera 1996. Los puntos del 8-14 son los Principios Guías para la Participación Pública desarrollado por el Grupo de Trabajo: Participación/Responsabilidad del NEJAC para asegurar el envolvimiento del público en su etapa inicial.

1. Las personas deben tener la oportunidad de aportar en las decisiones con referencia a las acciones tomadas que afectan sus vidas.
2. Participación Pública incluye la promesa que la contribución pública va a influir la decisión.
3. El proceso de participación pública comunica los intereses y realiza el proceso para identificar las necesidades de todos los participantes.
4. El proceso de participación pública busca y facilita el envolvimiento de aquéllos que potencialmente están afectados.
5. El proceso de participación pública envuelve a los participantes en la definición de cómo ellos participan.
6. El proceso de participación pública comunica a los participantes cómo su contribución llegó a ser utilizada y el porqué no fue incluida.
7. El proceso de participación pública provee a los participantes la información que necesitarán en una manera significativa.
8. Involucre las decisiones del público en las decisiones sobre acciones que afectan sus vidas.
9. Mantenga honestidad e integridad através del proceso.
10. Para una comunidad activa estimule la participación.
11. Reconozca el conocimiento de la comunidad.
12. Utilice métodos de comunicación que entrelacen las culturas
13. Institucionalice la participación pública significativa por medio del reconocimiento y formalización del proceso.
14. Crear mecanismos y medidas que aseguren la efectividad de la participación pública.

\**Interact está publicada por la Asociación Internacional de Practicantes de Participación Pública, una coorporación sin fines de lucro establecida en el 1990 para servir a los practicantes através del mundo y buscan la experiencia práctica cuando están diseñando y conduciendo programas de envolvimiento público.*

### **3. LOGÍSTICAS**

#### **A. Dónde:**

Las reuniones tienen que estar accesibles a todos los interesados en asistir (considerando la transportación pública, el cuidado de los niños, y el acceso seguro para el incapacitado)

- La reunión debe tener lugar en una facilidad adecuada (tamaño y condiciones tienen que ser considerados)
- La tecnología será usada para permitir una mayor y efectiva comunicación (teleconferencias, traducciones adecuadas, equipo, y otros factores)

#### **B. Cuándo:**

- La hora, el día y el año para la reunión han de ser acomodados a las necesidades de las comunidades (las reuniones al atardecer o fines de semana para acomodar a las personas que trabajan, y un itinerario cuidadosamente programado para evitar conflictos con otros eventos culturales de la comunidad).

#### **C. Cómo:**

- Crear una atmósfera de igual participación (evite usar un "panel" o "mesa central").
- Se sugiere una reunión de dos días, como mínimo. El primer día deberá reservarse para planificación y educación de la comunidad.
- La comunidad y el gobierno han de compartir liderazgo y presentaciones de sus cometidos.

### **4. MECÁNICAS**

- Mantener metas claras refiriéndose a la agenda; sin embargo, no están sujetados a ellas.
- Incorporar los enlaces culturales en la presentación de información y en la agenda de la reunión.
- Proveer un facilitador profesional que sea sensitivo(a), y entrenado en asuntos de justicia ambiental.
- Proveer una marca de tiempo que describa el cómo la reunión responde a toda la agenda de los asuntos pendientes.
- Coordinar el seguimiento mediante el desarrollo de un plan de acción y determinar quién es la persona de contacto quien se encargará de continuar el trabajo producido en la reunión.
- Distribuir las minutas y una lista de los asuntos pendientes.

## **ELEMENTOS CRÍTICOS PARA CONDUCIR PARTICIPACIÓN PÚBLICA**

### **1. PREPARACIÓN**

- A. Desarrollando relaciones que son co-patrocinada y co-planificada con las organizaciones de la comunidad; son esenciales para el éxito de las reuniones de la comunidad. Para asegurar una reunión exitosa, las agencias deben proporcionar a los co-patrocinantes los recursos que ellos necesitan y deben compartir todas las funciones en la planificación.
- Estas funciones incluyen:
- Toma de decisión
  - Desarrollo de la agenda
  - Establecimiento de metas claras
  - Liderazgo
  - Propagación
- B. Educando a la comunidad para permitir la igualdad en la participación y proveer el sentido para influenciar en la toma de decisiones.
- C. Desarrollar materiales en específico al asunto y asegurar la sensibilidad de la cultura y lo que es relevante a la localización.
- D. Proveer un facilitador quien sea sensible y entrenado en los asuntos de justicia ambiental.

### **2. PARTICIPANTES**

- A. Como el modelo de NEJAC demuestra, las siguientes comunidades deben ser involucradas en los problemas de justicia ambiental:
- Comunidad y grupos del barrio
  - Organizaciones de servicio a la comunidad (salud, bienestar, y otros)
  - Instituciones educativas y academia
  - Organizaciones ambientales
  - Agencias gubernamentales (federal, estatal, condado, local, y tribus)
  - Industria y negocio
  - Comunidad médica
  - Organizaciones no-gubernamentales
  - Comunidades religiosas
  - Comunidades espirituales
- B. Identificar los grupos de interés, incluyendo:
- Instituciones educativas
  - Comunidades afectadas
  - Políticas públicas y toma de decisiones (por ejemplo, representantes de agencias responsables por asuntos de justicia ambiental, así como oficiales para la salud, oficiales para normas y acatamiento legal, y funcionarios de agencia social)

## ANTECEDENTES

El Consejo Asesor Nacional de Justicia Ambiental (NEJAC) es un comité asesor federal que fue establecido por acta constitucional el 30 de septiembre de 1993, para proporcionar consejo independiente, consultación, y recomendaciones al Administrador de la Agencia de la Protección Ambiental (EPA) en materias relacionadas a justicia ambiental. El NEJAC se compone de 26 miembros, y un Funcionario Oficial Federal Designado (DFO), quién sirve como consejo ejecutivo. Está compuesto por 7 subcomités, (1) el subcomité de Puerto Rico (el cual se reúne en la Isla con el propósito de señalar los problemas ambientales de ésta), y otros seis subcomités basados en los programas de la EPA, los cuales son: (2) Aire y Agua, (3) Acatamiento Legal, (4) Salud e Investigación, (5) Gentes Indígenas, (6) Internacional, y (7) Desperdicios y Facilidades para Vertederos. Conjuntamente con los miembros del NEJAC, un grupo de 40 individuos adicionales sirven en varios de los subcomités. El NEJAC ha celebrado reuniones en varias localizaciones en los Estados Unidos, incluyendo Washington, D.C.; Albuquerque, Nuevo Mexico; Herndon, Virginia; 2 en Atlanta, Georgia; 3 en Arlington, Virginia; Detroit, Michigan; Durham, Carolina del Norte; Oakland, California; Baton Rouge, Louisiana; y Seattle, Washington.

Como comité federal asesor, el NEJAC está confinado a todos los requisitos del Acta del Comité Federal de Asesoría (FACA) del 6 de octubre del 1972. Estos requisitos incluyen:

- Los miembros tienen que asistir y participar totalmente en las reuniones del NEJAC
- Las reuniones tienen que ser públicas, excepto cuando es especificado por el Administrador
- Todas las reuniones han de ser anunciadas en el Registro Federal
- La Participación Pública tiene que ser permitida en todas las reuniones públicas
- El público tiene que tener acceso a todo el material distribuido durante la reunión
- Las transcripciones de las reuniones tienen que mantenerse en archivo y estar disponible al público.
- El NEJAC proveerá juicio independientemente de la influencia de grupos de interés especial.

Cada subcomité, formado para tratar con un tema específico y para facilitar la conducta de los asuntos del NEJAC, tiene un DFO y está limitado por los requisitos del FACA. Los subcomités del NEJAC se reúnen independientemente del NEJAC completo y presentan sus hallazgos al NEJAC para la revisión. Los subcomités no pueden hacer recomendaciones independientemente de la EPA. Además de los seis subcomités, el NEJAC ha establecido un Comité Protocolar, cuyos miembros lo componen el presidente del NEJAC y el líder de cada subcomité.

La Oficina de Justicia Ambiental de la EPA (OEJ) mantiene las transcripciones, compendio de los informes, y otro material distribuido durante las reuniones. Estos documentos están disponibles al público según se soliciten. Los Compendios de los Informes Ejecutivos de las reuniones del NEJAC están disponibles en su Página Electrónica de la Red Internacional: [http://es.epa.gov/oeca\\_new/ej/nejac/index.html](http://es.epa.gov/oeca_new/ej/nejac/index.html)

Comentarios y preguntas pueden ser enviados a la Oficina de Justicia Ambiental através de la Inter-red: [environmental-justice-epa@epa.gov](mailto:environmental-justice-epa@epa.gov)

## **CONTENIDO**

Antecedentes .....	5
Elementos Críticos para Conducir Participación Pública .....	6
1. Preparación	
2. Participantes	
3. Logísticas	
4. Mecánicas	
Núcleo de Valores y Principios Guías Para la Práctica de Participación Pública .....	8
Listas de Justicia Ambiental para Monitoreo de Participación Pública para las Agencias del Gobierno .....	9
Bibliografía .....	13
Reconocimientos .....	14

Estimados Colegas y Amigos:

El Consejo Asesor Nacional de Justicia Ambiental (NEJAC) considera crucial la participación pública, en asegurar que las decisiones que afectan la salud humana y el ambiente abrazan la justicia ambiental.

Para facilitar tal participación pública, el NEJAC pidió que su Subcomité de Participación Pública y Responsabilidad desarrollara recomendaciones para los métodos de participación pública que la EPA pueda institucionalizar en sus programas ambientales. En el 1994, el Subcomité de Participación Pública y de Responsabilidad desarrollaron un Plan Modelo para las Reuniones Públicas. El NEJAC adoptó el plan modelo como un documento viviente que sería revisado anualmente y enmendado según fuera necesario.

Nosotros estamos contentos de enviarle una copia revisada del Plan Modelo para la Participación Pública. Nosotros también hemos incluido el " Núcleo de Valores para la Práctica de Participación Pública," escrito por la revista Interact, El Periódico de Participación Pública, y el documento " Guía de Principios para la Participación Pública," desarrollado por el Subcomité de Participación Pública y Responsabilidad del NEJAC. Nosotros lo invitamos a considerar el plan modelo como una herramienta que reforzará el proceso de la participación del público. Por favor comparta este documento con otros que puedan estar interesados, animando a la comunidad a tener más amplia participación en el proceso de la toma de decisión.

Por favor remita cualquier comentario escrito a:

NEJAC  
c/o U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Environmental Justice  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW (Mail Code: 2201A)  
Washington, DC 20460  
Phone: (202) 564-2515  
Hotline: (800) 962-6215  
Fax: (202) 501-0740  
E-mail: [environmental-justice-epa@epa.gov](mailto:environmental-justice-epa@epa.gov)  
Internet: [http://es.epa.gov/oeca\\_new/ej/nejac/index.html](http://es.epa.gov/oeca_new/ej/nejac/index.html)

United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency

**Office of Environmental Justice**

Enforcement and  
Compliance Assurance  
(2201A)

EPA-300-K-00-001

Septiembre 2000

<http://www.epa.gov/oeca/ej/main/nejcpub.html>

## Para Obtener Copias

Escriba o Llame: US EPA National Service Center for Environmental Publications  
P.O. Box 42419  
Cincinnati, OH 45242

Teléfono: 513-489-8190

Solicite el Informe Número EPA-300-k-00-001

Este informe y recomendaciones han sido escritos como una parte de las actividades del Consejo Asesor Nacional para la Justicia Ambiental (NEJAC), un consejo público que proporciona información externa sobre política pública de la EPA, y conseja al Administrador y a otros oficiales de la Agencia de Protección Ambiental de los Estados Unidos (EPA). El Consejo está estructurado para proporcionar valorización equilibrada, análisis por expertos en la materia relacionada con justicia ambiental. Este informe ha sido revisado por la EPA. La mención de nombres comerciales o de productos comerciales no constituye una recomendación para el uso de ellos.

Este informe es una revisión del EPA-300-K-96-003 publicada en el 1996.



United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency

# EL PLAN MODELO PARA PARTICIPACIÓN PÚBLICA

(El original fue publicado como EPA-300-K-96-003)



*Consejo Asesor Nacional de Justicia Ambiental  
Un Comité de Consultoría Federal de la  
Agencia de Protección Ambiental de los  
Estados Unidos de Norte América*